

October 25, 1971

Mr. David Belin
Merrick, Langdon, Belin and Harris
300 Home Federal Building
Des Moines, Iowa 50309

Mr. Belin:

Your brief letter of October 14 calls my writing "trash" but does not offer a shred of substantiation, qualification, or explanation. Do I write "trash" because I challenge your pro-forma assurance that Oswald was guilty or because you cannot and do not meaningfully respond to one of my several extensively documented points? You may not like what I have to say about your work, but the fact remains that when I make an allegation, I document it. You have yet to do this, among all your sanctimonious cries of "sensationalist," "unscholarly," and now "trash."

To show you what trash really is I quote from your October 14 letter: "Every single allegation that you, Mrs. Meagher and the other sensationalists have made is fully answered in the Warren Commission Report." Among the several points I have raised in correspondence with you that are never addressed in the Warren Report are these: Carolyn Arnold, Troy Eugene West, T.F. Bowley, Howard Brennan's particular clothing descriptions, Eddie Piper's meeting with Oswald on the first floor at 12:00, Charles Givens' original statement about meeting Oswald on the first floor, and your memorandum of January 30, 1964. Since these and many other factors are totally absent from the Report--which actually makes statements contrary to this evidence--will you please tell me how my "every single allegation" is "fully answered" and direct me to the exact pages of the Report where I can get a full answer to these vital questions?

Let me make it clear that although you wish to hold me to all of your previously stated conditions, I still adhere to the interpretation of those conditions as expressed in my letter of August 14. I will feel free to circulate any letters I have written you plus your letter to me of July 8, which was written without conditions.

Because you seem to feel that the official conclusion of Oswald's guilt becomes truer each time you repeat it, I anticipate another letter from you containing the pro forma assurance that Oswald was guilty. This is as false said once as it is said a million times. Unless you are willing to confront the issues and reckon with fact and evidence, there is no point in my taking the time and effort to write you further. You have made a record and you will have to live with it, hard as that may be.

Howard Roffman